

Evening Public Ledger

PUBLIC LEDGER COMPANY
Cyrus H. K. Curtis, President
Charles H. Lanning, Vice President
John C. Martin, Secretary and Treasurer
John H. Williams, John J. Sprague, Directors
EDITORIAL BOARD:
Cyrus H. K. Curtis, Chairman
David E. Smiley, Editor
John C. Martin, General Business Manager
Published daily at 12th and Locust streets, Philadelphia, Pa.
Subscription terms:
In Philadelphia and surrounding towns, \$1.00 per week, payable in advance.

munificence. Naval commanders stationed abroad said very little for publication. The army chieftains seldom announced their plans to laymen. It was difficult at times for even the most energetic news services to discover just what was going on.
The value of such reticence was so repeatedly emphasized that the public came to believe that too much discussion of military and naval matters might play into the hands of the foe. Now that it is all over we realize, even more than we did during the conflict, how uninformed we were.

A YOUNG RAIL UNION WOULD ROUGH-HOUSE THE COUNTRY!

Threats of a Strike Come, Thus Far, Only From a Helpless and Unruly Infant Among the Brotherhoods

MAINTENANCE-OF-WAY men, who are alone responsible for the new threat of a railway strike, have the youngest of the big unions. They were not organized until the government took control of the lines. Their recent maneuvers, organized independently of the other big railroad brotherhoods, reveal the reckless lack of self-control that is inevitable when great energy is joined with inexperience.

It happens, however, that the maintenance-of-way men have a big dispute on with the Federation of Labor, which shows no disposition to support this latest adventure in industrial terrorism. The trainmen's brotherhoods, including the engineers and firemen, agree in the general demand for wage increase. But they have made it plain through their spokesmen at Washington, Mr. Lee, that they are not yet ready to go to the extent of a strike.

It may be admitted that the wages of railway men have not kept pace with the upward flight of living costs.
Whose wages have?
Railroad workers have had better opportunities than most people to meet, without hardship, the economic stresses of the period. Members of the trainmen's brotherhoods are the aristocrats of organized labor. If the President, the public and the railway executives were not now doing their utmost to make life comfortable for the railmen the talk of a vast strike now heard in Washington and at the maintenance-of-way men's headquarters in Detroit would be less exasperating.

SOVIET INSURANCE

THE New York Life Insurance Co. has announced that the soviet government of Russia has assumed all its obligations in that country and has taken possession of its Russian assets to enable it to meet the obligations.
The significance of this action, so far as it can be judged at this distance, lies in its apparent revelation of the purpose of the soviet government to protect those who are insured in the company.
That is, the government has apparently abandoned its policy of confiscation and it is attempting to conserve the wealth of the country.

ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE

THOMAS A. EDISON, who said on his seventy-third birthday that it was possible that Marconi is correct when he says that wireless electric messages can be sent as far as Mars, did not make an astounding admission.
No man of science at the present time is so rash as to deny the possibility of anything. He may regard this, that or the other as improbable, but so many wonderful things have been done that he keeps an open mind.
As an instance of the once unbelievable, Mr. Edison has cited the audion invented by Lee de Forest, which is so delicate and responsive that when a fly flaps over the transmitter the sound is magnified to such an extent that it would shatter the eardrums of a person listening at the receiver. Now, suggests the electrical wizard, if the men of the earth can do such a thing what cannot the men of Mars do, who are said to be as far superior to us as we are to the chimpanzee?

MARSHALL AS A CANDIDATE

VICE PRESIDENT MARSHALL is being trotted out as a possible harmony candidate for the Democrats. Senator Walsh, of Massachusetts, is said to be able to control the thirty-six delegates from his state and possibly the total eighty-eight from New England. If he desires it the Massachusetts delegates will present his name to the convention. But Senator Walsh leans strongly toward the Vice President, and Mr. Marshall can have the Indiana delegation if he wishes it.
Former Senator Bailey, of Texas, and Senator Reed, of Missouri, are working for anti-administration delegations to San Francisco from their states. It is not yet disclosed whether they will back Marshall, but if they do it will be necessary to eliminate the word harmony when speaking of his candidacy.

WHY NAVAL FACTS ESCAPED US

ADMIRAL SIMS' charge that "during the war the public's ignorance on military and naval affairs was colossal" is an indictment that can hardly be seriously disputed. Indeed, while the fighting was on, the opinion generally prevailed that curiosity on those subjects was unpatriotic.

A FORSAKEN OUTPOST

The Phipps Institute, Which Has Helped Millions, Is Now in Need of Help

PITY for unfortunate and unhappy little children lies deep and ineradicable in every one. The degree of civilized progress in any community is discernible always by the nature of the common regard for human life and the measure of sympathy accorded the poor. Therefore we feel that the letter from Dr. Charles J. Hatfield and Doctor Furbush, written in behalf of the Phipps Institute, and printed below, will not go unheeded in Philadelphia. For ourselves, we are glad of the opportunity to circulate an appeal made necessary by the poverty into which one of the few really great scientific institutions has been permitted to lapse.

It is inconceivable that an institution known internationally for its magnificent part in the slow, hard fight against tuberculosis should be closed because of a lack of money. But the Phipps Institute cannot survive without help. It was established in a part of the city where the need for its services was most acutely apparent. Millions of people in all parts of the world have benefited by the patient work of its distinguished staff. It is still one of the great and indispensable outposts in the war on tuberculosis.

Established seventeen years ago for the study, treatment and prevention of tuberculosis through scientific and intensive research, this institution has been termed the leading one of its kind in the world, both as to accomplishment and size. The achievements of the Henry Phipps Institute in its highly specialized line are due largely to the counsel of an advisory group which comprises men of national reputation in the field of tuberculosis. Such men are Dr. Simon Flexner, of New York; Dr. Theobald Smith, of Princeton; Dr. William H. Welch, of Baltimore, and Dr. Hermann M. Biggs, of New York.

KEEP HEPBURN ON THE JOB

THE way to settle the street-cleaning business is to keep Donald M. Hepburn at the head of the Street Cleaning Bureau. He has already proved that he is the right man for the job. He is interested in keeping the streets clean and in nothing else. He has already told more facts about the situation than are palatable to the contractors, and it is believed that he has more at his disposal that will be equally distasteful to the men who have been paid large sums of money for removing the filth from the highways.
If the need for Mr. Hepburn's services here were put up to Governor Sproul it is probable that he could be induced to release him from his agreement to enter the service of the state on March 1. But even if the Governor would consent to release him, Mr. Hepburn's services cannot be retained by the city unless an adequate salary is paid to him. It is preposterous to expect an engineer of his standing to work for \$4000 a year. He has demonstrated his ability to save the city hundreds of thousands of dollars and he has only just begun to study the problems of his bureau.

KERENSKY'S HINDSIGHT

BARRING Gogol, the Russians have not been notable for a sense of humor. For that reason it is unlikely that Alexander Kerensky was indulging in quaint irony at his own expense the other day when he blamed the Allies for having played into the hands of the Bolsheviks for more than two years.
Historians will argue the subject, but it is improbable that they will have many doubts concerning openings which Kerensky himself gave to soviet rule. If ever a statesman proved a "dud" and bungled his opportunities at a critical period, it was the former leader of Russia. Confronted with the choice of a weak man with sensible ideas, or a strong one with mad notions, the unfortunate Slav selected the latter.

New Ways to Break Old Pledges

Smartly and speculatively W. G. Lee writes the railroad director that circumstances set forth compel him to serve notice "as of January 23" that on and after February 23 there is possibility of a strike of the railroads. Truly an ingenious way of giving thirty days' notice. One is given reason to wonder if the gentleman's facts are not as mixed as his dates.

Now Needs New Outfit

Dynamite, like the tornado, sometimes acts as though it had a sense of the ludicrous. An exploding charge of dynamite near Pottstown, Pa., which broke windows seven miles away, hurt only the feelings and the modesty of the man accidentally responsible. It stripped every stitch of clothing from him, but only bruised him slightly.

Winston May Use It

Senator Vare says it was impossible to use the entire street-cleaning plant and force while the snow was on the ground. That seems reasonable so far as the plant is concerned, but hardly fits in the matter of men. There has been work enough for the force if the force had been used.

Easily Said

A good way to discourage a footpad is to follow the recent example of a local detective: Take his black jack away from him and hit him on the head with it.

Wet reservationists would be willing to insert Article XXX into the prohibition amendment.

FROM DAY TO DAY

"Over There" Overcrowded Spiritual Reaction Likely "Flu" Is Rival of War Death Has Other Boosters Hopes While Hearts Ache

MARK SULLIVAN, writing in Collier's of the reasons why there may be expected a great wigwagging from the other world to this, puts it thus, or rather he lets an unnamed scientist put it thus, as being a more scientific way than he could put it himself:
The one great, unprecedented phenomenon that has happened to the human race during the last five years is that more people have been killed—many times more—than ever were killed before in the same length of time. You can express this in either of two ways: If you are a materialist, you can express it by saying that during the last five years, on a comparatively small area of land in Europe, there has been a greater release of spiritual energy, a greater "settling free" of souls than ever occurred before; an extraordinary and unprecedented conglomeration and explosion of free spiritual energy. On the other hand, if you are a person of orthodox religion, you will express it by saying that there has been a greater migration of souls from this world to the next than ever occurred before; that an unprecedented multitude of souls from this world has just arrived in the next.

MR. SULLIVAN rather forces the hand of

his "materialist" by making him say that there had been a great "release of spiritual energy."
Your materialist in practice wouldn't be so agreeable. He would say that there had been a great change in the forces of matter during these five years of war, the killing of a man being to him scientifically much like the bursting of a shell.

But let Mark have his way with the materialist in order to show us what will happen from this rapid accumulation of spiritual energy on the other shore.
Why that world, being polar with respect to this, is surcharged with spiritual electricity, like the cloud Franklin tapped with his kite.

MR. GOES on Mr. Sullivan, this time apparently on his own hook:

If the spiritual energy released by the deaths of all these men on the battlefield goes into the general reservoir of all spiritual energy, then it would be reasonable to expect that the babies who are equipped with spirit from that reservoir—the babies who have recently been born—should possess an unusually large endowment of spiritual qualities. If we accept this assumption, then the babies born about this time ought to be the subject of even extraordinary concern on the part of all of us.

MR. SULLIVAN doesn't half state the

case for the accumulation of the "reservoir of spiritual energy" which is going to make the job of Sir Oliver Lodge or Sir A. Conan Doyle easy.
He leaves out the "flu."
This disease is supposed to have killed more people in India alone than the whole war did in Europe.
The war killed 7,000,000.
The "flu" last year alone took away 20,000,000.

Then there is starvation; it certainly has

destroyed more lives in Europe than did the war.
And the post-war diseases: typhus has just taken 100,000 men in Galicia.
The spiritual reservoir is vastly fuller than Mr. Sullivan makes out.
His scientist is a weak statistician.

WHY should the killed in battle add vastly

to the store of spiritual energy while the noncombatant victims of war at home fall to do so?
Admiral Sims sought publicity. It ill becomes him to complain when he gets it.

THE BATTLE SONG OF THE AGES

OH, 'Twas work and 'twas fight Where the guns spat death With a will and a might To the last gasped breath! Out of the west with a thunderous roar and a crackle of flame—did you hear?— Out of the vaulted, remote dim past with its treasures of dreams—did you hear?— Came a chorus of jesters and sages, And of paupers and princes and pages, 'Twas a sad song, 'Twas a glad song, 'Twas the Battle Song of the Ages!



The Battle Song of the Ages

THE TRAGEDY OF HUMAN THINKING

THE tragedy of human thinking is that given a cause it insists that there must be an effect.

When it cannot know the effect it invents one.
And, desiring happiness, it invents a happy effect.
In other words of Mr. Sullivan's, the world's spiritual bank account is only our old friend, the Happy Ending.

Material bank accounts being so bad here, it is pleasant to think of having one of the other kind "over there."
A reservoir somewhere is a pleasant thing to think about.
For example, how about a reservoir of baseball?

During the war we didn't play baseball. Therefore there must be an accumulation.
And the big leagues in convention assembly have resolved to draw upon it for this season.

The better to do it they have cleared the way of all tricks, arts and devices which obstruct a complete and perfect flow of the unused baseball energy into the game this year.
No "spitters," no "shine balls," no intentional passes by pitchers that break the heart of the world.

"Babe" Ruth walking to the plate will present a sight draft on the unused home runs of 1918.
"You know what beat them Germans?" said a dandy. "Stragely!" There is not going to be any "stragely" in baseball this year, only energy.

AND speaking of "stragely," the Allies, particularly the French and Belgians, in their process against the "war guilts" Germans, have borrowed that of Speaker Sweet, of the New York Assembly, against the Socialists. You begin to hope that the war guilts, like the Kaiser, will make a getaway.

Rudolph Krause, ex-saloonkeeper and new children's agent, may occasionally inebriate the little ones by singing that beautiful little song beginning "Father, dear father, come home with me now."

Senator Vare may yet revise his statement to read that it is impossible to do effective work while there is dirt upon the streets.

The footpad who was beaten by a local woman is henceforth no believer in the virtues of feminism.

Uncle Sam's sea dogs and dogs of war may be muzzled, as Admiral Sims alleges, but they have demonstrated that they both bark and bite.

One of the little things that help to sweeten life is the declaration that sugar is going to be cheaper next month.

TRIOLET

UPON the roof the pattering rain! I lie and think how oft again Upon the roof the pattering rain Will fall; and I can scarce refrain From wondering why one loves to hear Upon the roof the pattering rain. 'Tis music to a listening ear.

ANSWERS TO YESTERDAY'S QUIZ

- 1. Who has just been appointed ambassador to Italy?
2. How old is Thomas A. Edison?
3. What is cerebral thrombosis?
4. Under what emperor did the Roman empire attain its greatest extent?
5. Where is Tebichon?
6. Who invented the telescope?
7. What is the meaning of the word hella-caly?
8. For how many years was Texas an independent republic?
9. What was the real name of Gaby Deslys?
10. What time does seven bells indicate on shipboard?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

- 1. The governor and the people of Hawaii are urging that territory be admitted to statehood.
2. Two comedies by William Wecheher are "Love in a Wood" and "The Country Wife."
3. Abraham Lincoln died at the age of fifty-six.
4. The United States entered the World War, the Spanish War and the Civil War in the month of April.
5. Brown is attained by mixing red and black.
6. The largest bell in the world is in Moscow, at the foot of the Kremlin. Its circumference is nearly sixty-eight feet.
7. The famous steamship, the Great Eastern, was designed by I. K. Brunel, a British engineer.
8. The largest library in the world is the Bibliotheque Nationale in Paris. It contains more than two million volumes.
9. A kickshaw is a fancy dish in cookery or a toy trifle.
10. A whole is a pin in the gunwale of a rowboat, used as a fulcrum for an oar.

What Do You Know?

- 1. Who has just been appointed ambassador to Italy?
2. How old is Thomas A. Edison?
3. What is cerebral thrombosis?
4. Under what emperor did the Roman empire attain its greatest extent?
5. Where is Tebichon?
6. Who invented the telescope?
7. What is the meaning of the word hella-caly?
8. For how many years was Texas an independent republic?
9. What was the real name of Gaby Deslys?
10. What time does seven bells indicate on shipboard?

QUIZ

- 1. Who has just been appointed ambassador to Italy?
2. How old is Thomas A. Edison?
3. What is cerebral thrombosis?
4. Under what emperor did the Roman empire attain its greatest extent?
5. Where is Tebichon?
6. Who invented the telescope?
7. What is the meaning of the word hella-caly?
8. For how many years was Texas an independent republic?
9. What was the real name of Gaby Deslys?
10. What time does seven bells indicate on shipboard?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

- 1. The governor and the people of Hawaii are urging that territory be admitted to statehood.
2. Two comedies by William Wecheher are "Love in a Wood" and "The Country Wife."
3. Abraham Lincoln died at the age of fifty-six.
4. The United States entered the World War, the Spanish War and the Civil War in the month of April.
5. Brown is attained by mixing red and black.
6. The largest bell in the world is in Moscow, at the foot of the Kremlin. Its circumference is nearly sixty-eight feet.
7. The famous steamship, the Great Eastern, was designed by I. K. Brunel, a British engineer.
8. The largest library in the world is the Bibliotheque Nationale in Paris. It contains more than two million volumes.
9. A kickshaw is a fancy dish in cookery or a toy trifle.
10. A whole is a pin in the gunwale of a rowboat, used as a fulcrum for an oar.